

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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R 310710Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1718
INFO AMCONSUL BUKAVU POUCH
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, CG, ZA
SUBJECT: SECOND MEETING OF ZAIRIAN-ZAMBIAN MIXED COMMISSION

1. SUMMARY: THE ZAIRIAN-ZAMBIAN MIXED COMMISSION HELD ITS SECOND REGULAR MEETING IN KINSHASA AUGUST 25 AND 26. THE ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO CARRIED A LETTER FROM KAUNDA FOR MOBUTU, HEADED A HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION WHICH INCLUDED THREE OTHER MINISTERS. AMONG THE MOST

PROMINENT ISSUES REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED WERE FRONTIER SECURITY AND THE BENGUELS RAILROAD. END SUMMARY.

2. THE SECOND MEETING OF THE ZAIRIAN-ZAMBIAN MIXED COMMISSION WAS NOTABLE FOR THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTICIPANTS AND SUBJECTS DISCUSSED RATHER THAN ANY PUBLICIZED RESULTS. THE DELEGATES INCLUDED THE ZAMBIAN FOREIGN, TRANSPORT, ENERGY COMMUNICATIONS, AND PUBLIC WORK'S MINISTERS AND THE ZAIRIAN STATE COMMISSIONERS (I.E. MINISTERS) FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TRANSPORT, AND ENERGY AS WELL AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. ACCORDING TO NEWS REPORTS, QUESTIONS OF

JUDICIAL COOPERATION, FRONTIER SECURITY, THE RPATRIATION OF EACH
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COUNTRY'S NATIONALS, TRANSPORT, AND THE OPENING OF THE BENGUELA RAILROAD WERE DISCUSSED.

3. THE COMMISSION DECIDED TO TABLE QUESTIONS OF FRONTIER SECURITY AND JUDICIAL COOPERATION UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION (CHEDULED FOR JAN. 1979 IN ZAMBIA). TRANSPORT QUESTIONS, NOTABLY AIR ZAIRE SERVICE TO ZAMBIA, ARE TO BE ADDRESSED AT OTHER BILATERAL

FORA. THE BENGUELA RAILWAY PROBLEM BROUGHT FORTH THE OBSERVATION THAT ZAMBIA, ZAIRE, AND ANGOLA "OUGHT TO WORK TOGETHER TO SETTLE CHARGES FOR PASSENGER AND FREIGHT TRAFFIC".

4. THE ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CARRIED A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT MOBUTU FROM PRESIDENT KAUNDA. ALTHOUGH THE TEXT HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED, THE LETTER APPARENTLY EXPRESSED KAUNDA'S SUPPORT FOR ANGOLAN/ZAIRIAN RAPPROACHMENT.

5. COMMENT: WHAT CONCRETE RESULTS THE MEETING MAY HAVE ACHIEVED IS NOT CLEAR. THE ZAMBIAN DELEGATION'S VIEW THAT NO BILATERAL PROBLEMS EXIST, "ONLY SINCERE AND VERY PROFOUND AMITY" MAY NOT EXACTLY REFLECT PRESENT REALITY. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS ACCURATELY TO DEPICT THE TWO COUNTRIES' HOPES FOR FUTURE RELATIONS.

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